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Media Release

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Attorney General's Mortgage Fraud Task Force supports December housing workshops to help homeowners and reduce foreclosure fraud

Wilmington, DE – The Attorney General's Mortgage Fraud Task Force is supporting December workshops in Middletown, Claymont, New Castle, and Seaford to help homeowners who are worried about missing a mortgage payment, are facing foreclosure, or suspect a foreclosure scam. The FREE workshops are as follows:

Date	Time	Location	Address
Saturday December 5	10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Appoquinimink Library	651 North Broad Street Middletown
Wednesday December 9	12:00 – 1:30 p.m.	Claymont Community Center	3301 Green Street Claymont
Saturday December 12	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Rose Hill Community Center	19 Lambsons Lane New Castle
Wednesday December 16	4:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Pizza King	300 West Stein Highway Seaford

During these workshops representatives from the Attorney General's Office, Office of the Bank Commission, and Delaware State Housing Authority will lead informational presentations to provide details about the Delaware Mortgage Assistance Program (DEMAP), mortgage refinancing options, foreclosure, and foreclosure rescue scams. Walk-ins are encouraged.

For the first 10 months of 2009, Delaware foreclosure filings jumped 41 % to 5,178, versus 4,170 in the first 10 months of 2008. Moreover, Sheriff's sales of foreclosed homes in New Castle County have reached a record 300 homes for January, 2010. Sheriff's sales have also risen sharply in Kent and Sussex counties.

Borrowers who have missed mortgage payments and have been named in a foreclosure filing are reminded that mortgage rescue companies and others who offer to help with mortgage modifications are prohibited by law from receiving payment in advance of providing the service. Homeowners facing foreclosure or who suspect foreclosure fraud are encouraged to call the Attorney General's Mortgage Hotline at **1-800-220-5424**, visit the Attorney General's website at **www.attorneygeneral.delaware.gov/mortgageforeclosure**, or visit the Delaware State Housing Authority's Foreclosure Help website at **www.deforeclosurehelp.org**. These state resources provide information about government programs, access to FREE HUD-certified housing counseling services, as well as fraud-prevention and reporting tools.

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